

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 11321 251841Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCE-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SS-15 L-03 EB-08 OMB-01
TRSE-00 AID-05 COME-00 HA-05 SP-02 /077 W
-----051431 261636Z /44

R 251221Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
SECSTATE WASHDC 2982

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 11321

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, IT, IN
SUBJECT: PROPOSED ITALIAN ARMS SALE TO INDIA

REF: ROME 13463

1. THE INDIANS HAVE BEEN LOOKING INTO POSSIBLE REPLACEMENTS
FOR THEIR AN-12 TRANSPORTS WHICH ARE BECOMING OBSOLETE.
LOCKHEED, FOR INSTANCE, HAS BEEN TALKING TO THE INDIANS
ABOUT A CO-PRODUCTION DEAL ON THE L-400. HOWEVER,
ACQUISITION OF A TACTICAL STRIKE AIRCRAFT DPSA, NOT NEW TRANSPORT
AIRCRAFT, IS THE GOI'S TOP PRIORITY, AND WE WOULD CONSIDER ANY
MAJOR ACQUISITION OF NEW MILITARY TRANSPORT BY THE GOI TO BE
SOME SEVERAL YEARS IN THE FUTURE.

2. OUR INITIAL REACTION TO INDIAN INTEREST IN AERITALIA'S
G-222 IS THAT THE GOI IS DOING SOME COMPARATIVE WINDOW
SHOPPING. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE ESTIMATE OF ONLY TWO TO FOUR
AIRCRAFT INVOLVED, WE CANNOT TELL IF THIS IS A REQUEST
GENERATED BY THE INDIAN MILITARY. IT MAY BE THAT
CIVILIAN MINISTRIES OF THE GOI ARE LOOKING FOR A
FEW CARGO-CARRYING AIRCRAFT, OR THAT THE GOI WISHES
TO PURCHASE SOME G-22 FOR TEST EVALUATION.

GOHEEN
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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